IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 15 and 20 and cancel claim 16.

1-14 (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A method ~~of making a Type II restriction endonuclease having an altered specificity~~; comprising:

(a) selecting a restriction endonuclease characterized by a modular structure having a specificity subunit and a catalytic subunit, the specificity subunit further comprising an N-terminal domain for binding one half site of a bipartite recognition sequence and a C-terminal domain for binding a second half site of the bipartite recognition sequence;

(b) modifying the specificity subunit; and

(c) obtaining the ~~Type II~~ restriction endonuclease with altered specificity.

16. (cancelled)

17. (previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein modifying the specificity subunit in step (b) further comprises substituting the N-terminal domain with a second C-terminal domain or substituting the C-terminal domain with a second N-terminal domain.

18. (previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein modifying the specificity subunit further comprises substituting the N-terminal domain or the C-terminal domain or both N-terminal and C-terminal domain with a binding domain from a second restriction endonuclease or methyltransferase.

19. (previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein modifying the specificity subunit further comprises mutating the N-terminal domain, the C-terminal domain or both domains to alter the binding specificity.

20. (currently amended) A method according to claim 15, 16, 17, 18 or 19, wherein modifying the specificity subunit further comprises changing ~~the~~ a length of ~~the~~ a spacer amino acid sequence between the N-terminal and C-terminal domains of the specificity module.

21. (previously presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein the second restriction endonuclease or methyltransferase is selected from a group consisting of a Type I restriction endonuclease, a Type IIG restriction endonuclease and a γ-type m^6A methyltransferase.

22. (previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein the specificity subunit and the catalytic subunit are encoded by different genes.

23. (withdrawn) A substantially pure Type IIG restriction endonuclease obtainable from *Citrobacter* species 2144 (NEB#1398) (ATCC Patent Accession No. PTA-5846) or from *Escherichia coli* NEB#1554 (ATCC Patent Accession No. PTA-5887) capable of recognizing at least one sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:34 and SEQ ID NO:35, and cleaving the DNA on both sides of the recognition sequence.

24. (withdrawn) An isolated DNA encoding CstMI restriction endonuclease obtainable from *Escherichia coli* NEB#1554 (ATCC Patent Accession No. PTA-5887) or from *Citrobacter* species 2144 (NEB#1398) (ATCC Patent Accession No. PTA-5846).

25. (withdrawn) Isolated DNA encoding the restriction endonuclease of claim 1, wherein the DNA comprises a first DNA segment encoding an endonuclease and methyl transferase catalytic function and a second DNA segment encoding a sequence specificity function of the restriction endonuclease wherein the first and second DNA segments comprise one or more DNA molecules.

26. (withdrawn) A recombinant DNA vector, comprising: at least one of a first DNA segment coding for the restriction and modification domains of CspCI restriction endonuclease and a second segment coding for the specificity domain of the restriction endonuclease.

27. (withdrawn) A host cell transformed with a first DNA segment coding for the restriction and modification domains of CspCI restriction endonuclease and a second segment coding for the specificity domain of the restriction endonuclease wherein the first DNA segment and the second DNA segment are contained within one or more DNA vectors.

28. (withdrawn) A method for obtaining the endonuclease of claim 23, comprising cultivating a sample of *Citrobacter* species 2144 (NEB#1398) or a host cell according to claim 6 under conditions favoring the production of the endonuclease; and purifying the endonuclease therefrom.